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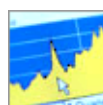
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Includes: **State Final Demand**



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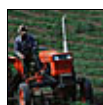
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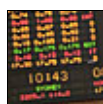
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FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (QUARTER)

March 2008

Release Date

15 May 2008

NOTE

This publication contains a feature article entitled **Child Care Usage in Victoria**. A list of all previous feature articles published is contained in the Appendix of the PDF version of this publication.

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EXPLANATORY NOTES

The statistics shown are the latest available as at 24 January 2008.

Explanatory Notes in the form found in other ABS publications are not included in **State and Regional Indicators, Victoria**. Readers are directed to the Explanatory Notes contained in related ABS publications.

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Pam Boulton on Melbourne (03) 9615 7880.

About this Release

State and Regional Indicators, Victoria (SRIV) is a quarterly publication that contains recently released statistical information about the whole of Victoria. Data is sourced from ABS and non-ABS collections. It provides measures according to a triple bottom line of economic, social and environment elements.

Most chapters contain a mix of tables, charts and commentary, to provide a basic analysis of recent movements in key economic, social and environmental data. Data is presented for varying geographic classifications, including, Victoria; Melbourne and the Balance of Victoria; down to Local Government Area for some series. The aim of the publication is to provide a picture of the situation of Victoria and enable comparison, both over time and between regions.

Core data, such as Estimated Resident Population, State Final Demand, Labour Force Statistics, Price Indexes, Building Approvals, Air Quality, and Water Storage Volumes is complemented by periodic annual data including the Condition of Main Roads, Recorded Crime Offences, Life Expectancy at Birth, Government Owned Housing Stock and others. Web pages will be updated as data becomes available.

As the information is sourced from a wide variety of collections, care needs to be taken when analysing the data as time periods, definitions, methodologies, scope and coverage may differ from table to table. Advice is provided in the publication on such matters.

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State Comparison

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SUMMARY OF STATISTICAL INDICATORS

This chapter summarises the key Victorian statistical indicators and compares them with the same statistical indicators of other states and Australia.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 1, Summary of Statistical Indicators (file size 13kB).

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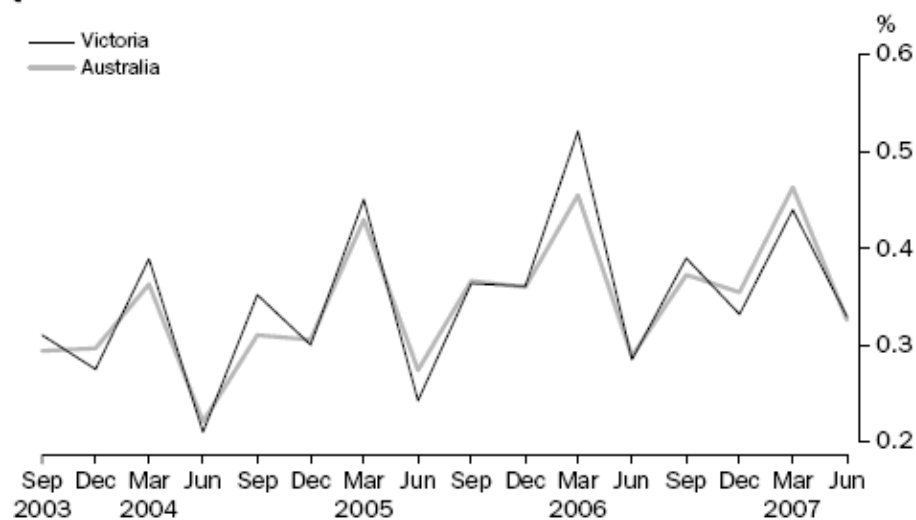
ESTIMATED RESIDENT POPULATION

Victoria's estimated resident population (ERP) at the end of any given period is the estimated population at the beginning of the period plus the sum of three components: natural increase, net overseas migration and net interstate migration.

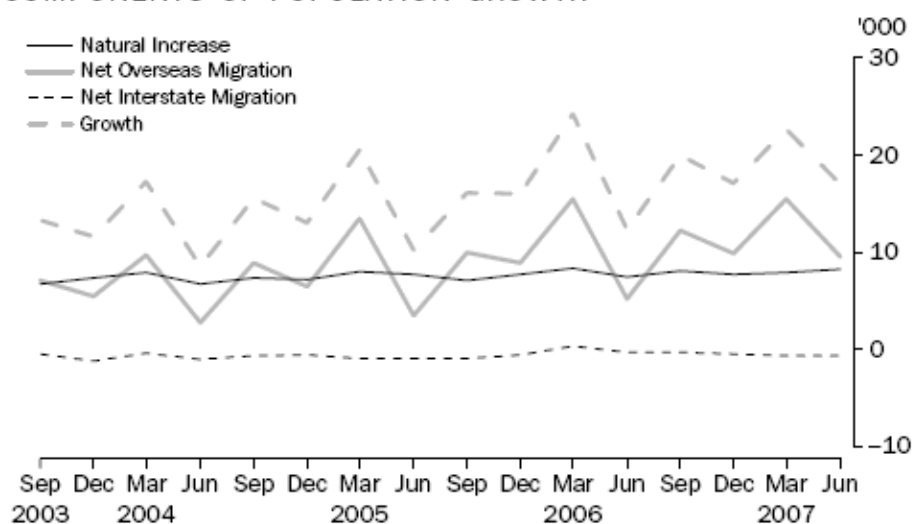
In June quarter 2007, Victoria's ERP grew by 17,100 persons or 0.33%. Australia's ERP also grew by 0.33% (68,300 persons) over the same period.

Net overseas migration contributed most to Victoria's population growth in the June quarter 2007 (9,500 persons), while natural increase was 8,300 persons. Net interstate migration was a loss of 700 people. With the exception of March quarter 2006, Victoria has experienced a net loss in population to other Australian states in sixteen of the last seventeen quarters.

QUARTERLY POPULATION GROWTH



COMPONENTS OF POPULATION GROWTH



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VITAL STATISTICS

As at December 2006, the highest total fertility rates in Victoria were recorded in the regional LGAs of Loddon (2.57), Buloke and Corangamite (both 2.54) and Yarriambiack (2.52). In the Melbourne Statistical Division, the highest total fertility rate of 2.07 was registered in the Shire of Cardinia (which includes the suburbs of Pakenham, Cardinia and Emerald). The next highest metropolitan rate of 2.06 was recorded in the Shire of Melton (which includes the suburbs of Melton, Melton South and Caroline Springs).

The lowest statewide total fertility rates of 0.87 and 1.12 were recorded in metropolitan LGAs. These were, respectively, the City of Melbourne (which includes the areas of East Melbourne, Carlton, Kensington and the inner city) and the City of Port Phillip (which includes the suburbs of St Kilda, Elwood and Port Melbourne). The LGAs which recorded the lowest total fertility rates in Regional Victoria were Queenscliffe (1.64) and Greater Geelong (1.75).

As at December 2006, the highest indirect standardised death rate in Victoria of 7.4 was recorded in the regional LGA of Loddon. It also experienced natural decrease (excess of deaths over births) and a decline in ERP (estimated resident population) for the previous 12 months. This was one of only half a dozen LGAs (all in Regional Victoria) that experienced both natural decrease and a decline in ERP in the year to December 2006. In the Melbourne Statistical Division, the highest indirect standardised death rate of 6.6 was registered in the City of Hobsons Bay (which includes the suburbs of Williamstown, Altona, Altona Meadows and Spotswood).

The lowest indirect standardised death rate across the state's LGAs was recorded in the City of Melbourne (4.2). Within metropolitan Melbourne, the City of Manningham (which includes the suburbs of Bulleen, Doncaster, Templestowe and Warrandyte) had the second lowest rate at 4.9. The LGAs which recorded the lowest indirect standardised death rate in Regional Victoria were Surf Coast (4.9), Hindmarsh (5.5) and Macedon Ranges (5.6).

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 3, Vital Statistics, By Local Government Area, 2006 (file size 19kB).

Hospitals' Performance

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HOSPITALS' PERFORMANCE

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Life Expectancy at Birth

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LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH

Life expectancy is considered an indicator of the health of any given population. For a child born today, life expectancy is calculated as the average life span of a child, on the assumption that currently observed age-and-sex specific death rates continue indefinitely into the future.

Life expectancy at birth for Victorian children has continued to rise. A boy born in Victoria during 2001-05 had a life expectancy of 79.8 years, 2.4 years longer than a boy born during 1997-2001. The life expectancy of a girl born in 2001-05 was 84.3 years, 4.5 years longer than a boy, and 1.6 years longer than a girl born in 1997-2001.

In 2001-05, the highest life expectancy for a male born in Victoria was recorded in the Shire of Nillumbik (81.9 years), while the City of Melbourne recorded the highest female life expectancy (86.7 years). Loddon Shire recorded the lowest life expectancy for a male during this period (74.8 years), 5 years below the male life expectancy for Victoria. Glenelg Shire recorded the lowest life expectancy for female (81.3 years), which was 3 years below the female life expectancy for Victoria.

Between 1997-2001 and 2001-05, the gap between LGAs with highest and lowest male life expectancy widened from 5.8 years to 7.1 years. Similarly for females the gap increased from 4.7 to 5.4 years.

The largest percent changes in life expectancy for males between 1997-2001 and 2001-05 were recorded in the City of Melbourne (5.5%) and Shire of Surf Coast (3.8%). For females, the percent change was highest in the Shires of Golden Plains (4.1%) and Surf Coast (3.2%), both in the LGA of Barwon.

[View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 6, Life Expectancy At Birth, By Local Government Area \(file size 21kB\).](#)

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Civilian labour force by region

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CIVILIAN LABOUR FORCE BY REGION

As at May 2007, an improved method of estimation for the Labour Force Survey (LFS) was introduced. The new method, known as composite estimation, produces lower standard errors than the previous estimation method. As part of introducing composite estimation, the ABS has revised all labour force statistics back to April 2001, based on the new estimation method. More information on the statistical impacts of this new estimation method is available in **Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics** (cat. no. 6292.0) released on 21 May 2007.

Between December 2006 and December 2007, the Victorian labour force grew by 85,300 people (3.1%). During this period, the number of employed persons rose by 87,400 (3.4%) and the number of unemployed persons fell by 2,100 (-1.6%). The unemployment rate decreased from 5.0% to 4.7%.

Between December 2006 and December 2007, the labour force grew by 58,000 persons (2.9%) in the Melbourne Major Statistical Region (MSR) and by 27,300 persons (3.8%) in the Balance of Victoria MSR. The proportion of employed persons who worked full-time increased from 71.2% to 71.7% in the Melbourne MSR, but decreased in the Balance of Victoria MSR (69.6% to 67.9%).

The number of unemployed people increased by 4,500 (5.1%) in the Melbourne MSR and fell by 6,600 (-14.3%) in Balance of Victoria MSR. The unemployment rate increased from 4.4% to 4.5% in the Melbourne MSR and decreased from 6.5% to 5.3% in the Balance of Victoria MSR. The labour force participation rate increased in both Melbourne MSR (66.2% to 66.9%) and Balance of Victoria MSR (63.3% to 64.5%).

Within the Balance of Victoria, the Barwon-Western District statistical region displayed the largest increase in employment (20,700 persons) followed by the Central Highlands-Wimmera

statistical region (9,400 persons) and the All Gippsland statistical region (8,900 persons). A fall in employment was experienced in the Loddon-Mallee statistical region (8,900 persons). All statistical regions experienced a fall in their unemployment rate over the period, except for the All Gippsland statistical region.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 7, Civilian Labour Force, By Region (file size 7.6kB).

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Employed Persons by Industry

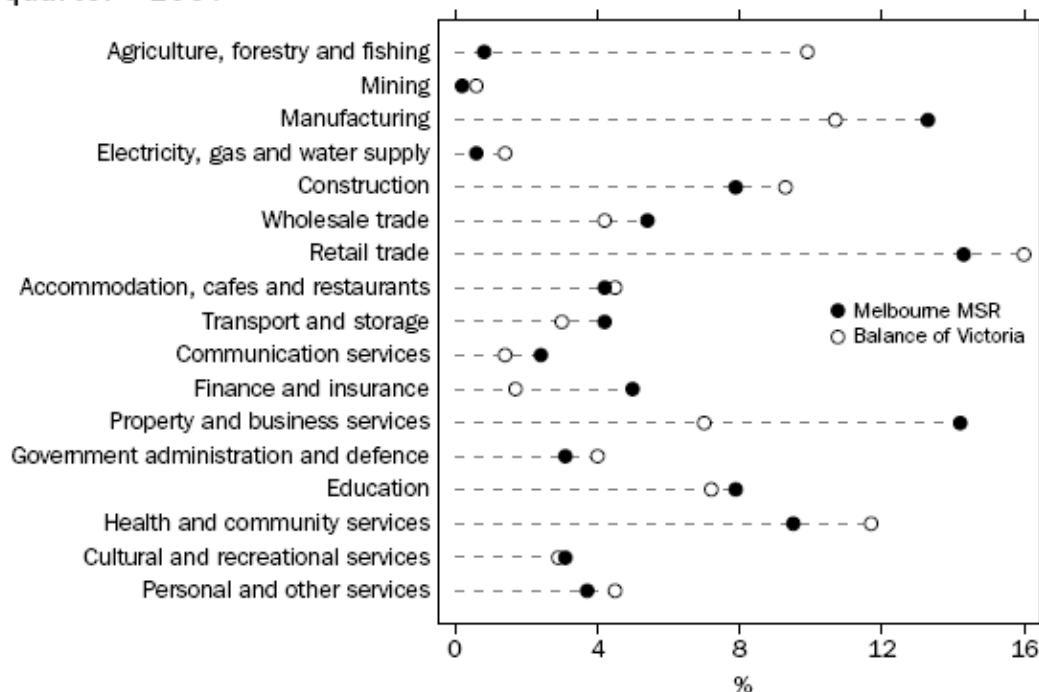
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EMPLOYED PERSONS BY INDUSTRY

In November quarter 2007, the largest proportion of persons employed in the Melbourne MSR were in Retail trade (14.3%), Property and business services (14.2%) and Manufacturing (13.3%).

In the Balance of Victoria, the biggest employers were Retail trade (16.0%), Health and community services (11.7%) and Manufacturing (10.7%).

EMPLOYED PERSONS, By Industry, Melbourne MSR and Balance of Victoria: November quarter—2007



In Victoria, the Mining and Construction industries had the highest proportion of total males employed (88.0% and 86.4% respectively), whilst the highest proportion of total females employed were in Health and community services and Education (80.2% and 65.7% respectively).

In terms of full-time employment, Manufacturing accounted for the highest proportion of males employed in Victoria (18.2%) and Health and community services accounted for the highest proportion of full-time females employed (16.5%). In terms of part-time employment, Retail trade accounted for the largest proportion of both males and females employed (27.0% and 23.4% respectively).

Employed Persons(a), By Industry and Major Statistical Region - November Quarter 2007

	Full-Time			Part-Time		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MELBOURNE						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	5.8	4.0	9.8	2.6	2.3	4.9
Mining	3.2	1.0	4.2	-	-	-
Manufacturing	164.6	57.5	222.1	12.3	20.4	32.8
Electricity, gas and water supply	6.5	4.1	10.6	0.5	0.9	1.4
Construction	121.0	8.5	129.5	9.0	13.5	22.5
Wholesale trade	63.4	25.0	88.4	4.9	10.3	15.2
Retail trade	94.1	46.4	140.5	44.2	89.8	134.0
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	24.7	20.2	44.9	14.6	20.8	35.5
Transport and storage	54.7	11.8	66.5	7.4	7.2	14.6
Communication services	29.1	10.5	39.7	3.0	3.3	6.3
Finance and insurance	44.0	33.7	77.7	6.2	12.1	18.3
Property and business services	130.4	75.1	205.5	23.4	43.9	67.3
Government administration and defence	22.1	24.1	46.2	1.8	12.2	14.1
Education	41.4	58.8	100.2	10.7	40.9	51.6
Health and Community Services	28.7	73.1	101.7	11.4	69.3	80.7
Cultural and Recreational Services	20.5	11.7	32.2	9.9	17.7	27.7
Personal and Other Services	29.5	18.2	47.7	6.3	17.8	24.0
BALANCE OF VICTORIA						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	38.4	10.5	48.9	10.8	9.6	20.4
Mining	4.1	-	4.1	-	-	-
Manufacturing	54.9	11.1	66.0	3.7	4.7	8.4
Electricity, gas and water supply	8.3	1.1	9.5	-	-	-
Construction	54.4	3.8	58.2	3.1	3.7	6.8
Wholesale trade	19.4	4.4	23.8	1.9	3.6	5.5
Retail trade	34.1	22.3	56.3	17.8	37.5	55.3
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	7.2	5.9	13.1	3.8	14.5	18.3
Transport and storage	16.6	2.1	18.8	1.5	0.6	2.1
Communication services	3.7	2.3	6.0	1.4	2.1	3.6
Finance and insurance	5.2	3.6	8.8	0.4	2.7	3.1
Property and business services	21.7	11.0	32.7	4.9	11.1	16.0
Government administration and defence	10.4	11.0	21.4	1.3	4.9	6.2
Education	15.0	16.8	31.8	2.1	16.1	18.2
Health and Community Services	10.8	31.6	42.4	1.4	38.1	39.5
Cultural and Recreational Services	7.3	3.2	10.5	4.4	5.4	9.8
Personal and Other Services	11.1	11.3	22.5	2.5	6.7	9.2
VICTORIA						
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	44.2	14.5	58.7	13.5	11.9	25.4
Mining	7.3	1.0	8.3	-	-	-
Manufacturing	219.5	68.6	288.1	16.0	25.1	41.2
Electricity, gas and water supply	14.9	5.2	20.1	0.5	0.9	1.4
Construction	175.4	12.3	187.7	12.1	17.2	29.3
Wholesale trade	82.8	29.4	112.2	6.8	13.9	20.7
Retail trade	128.1	68.7	196.8	62.0	127.2	189.3
Accommodation, cafes and restaurants	31.9	26.1	58.0	18.4	35.3	53.8
Transport and storage	71.3	13.9	85.3	8.9	7.8	16.7
Communication services	32.8	12.9	45.7	4.5	5.4	9.9
Finance and insurance	49.2	37.3	86.5	6.6	14.8	21.4
Property and business services	152.2	86.1	238.3	28.3	55.0	83.3

Government administration and defence	32.5	35.1	67.6	3.2	17.1	20.3
Education	56.4	75.6	132.0	12.8	57.0	69.8
Health and Community Services	39.5	104.7	144.1	12.7	107.4	120.2
Cultural and Recreational Services	27.9	14.8	42.7	14.3	23.1	37.5
Personal and Other Services	40.6	29.5	70.1	8.7	24.5	33.2

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Civilian population aged 15 years and over.

Source: ABS data available on request, Labour Force Survey.

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Employed Persons by Occupation

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EMPLOYED PERSONS BY OCCUPATION

In November quarter 2007, there were approximately 1,842,200 persons employed full-time in Victoria. The Melbourne MSR accounted for 1,367,400 (74.2%) of total full-time employed persons and the Balance of Victoria MSR, 474,900 persons (25.8%).

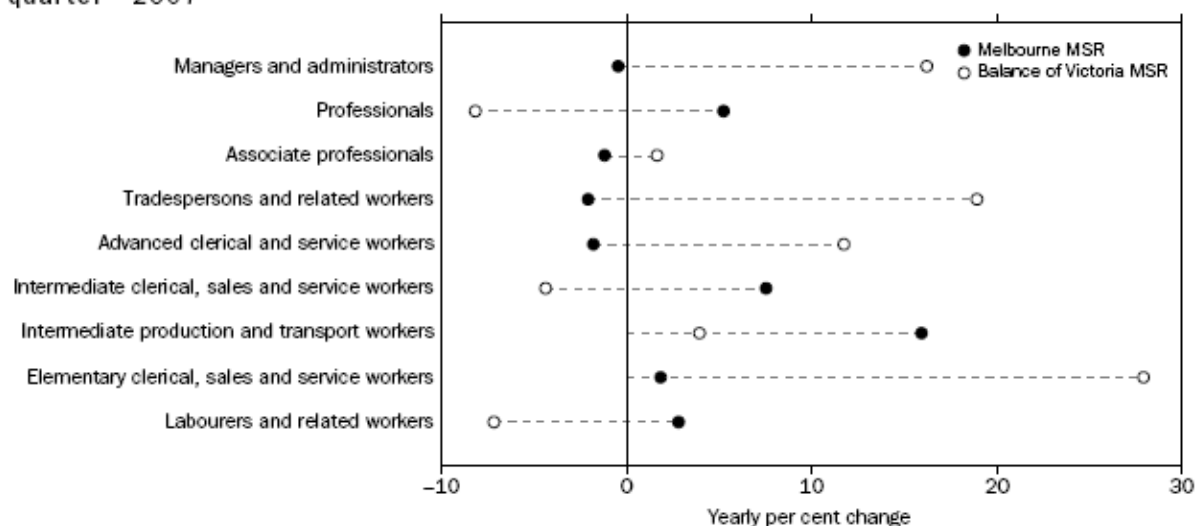
In the Melbourne MSR over half of full-time and part-time workers were employed in three occupational categories: Professionals (22.9%), Intermediate clerical sales and service workers (17.0%) and Associate professionals (12.7%). In the Balance of Victoria, Tradespersons was the predominant group of workers (15.2%) followed closely by Professionals (14.7%) and Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers (13.7%).

Dissecting occupation by gender reveals that in the Melbourne MSR the three most predominant occupations for female employees were Professionals, Intermediate clerical sales and service and Elementary clerical, sales and services workers (25.7%, 25.7% and 12.7% respectively). For male employees, the three most predominant occupations were Professionals, Tradespersons and Associated professionals (20.7%, 19.2% and 12.8% respectively). In comparison, the proportion of female employees working as Professionals in Balance of Victoria was slightly lower (19.1%) and significantly lower for male employees (11.1%). The predominant occupation for females in Balance of Victoria was Intermediate clerical, sales and service (23.5%) while male employees tended to work as Tradespersons (23.6%), Intermediate production and transport workers (15.4%) and Managers and administrators (14.1%).

Full-time workers in the Melbourne MSR worked mainly as Professionals (24.4%), Associate professionals (14.6%), Tradespersons (14.4%) and Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers (14.3%). In the Balance of Victoria the three most predominant occupational groups working on a full-time basis were Tradespersons (19.5%), Professionals (15.4%) and Associate professionals (13.9%).

In terms of part-time workers, in the Melbourne MSR three occupational groups comprised 63.4% of the total: Intermediate clerical, sales and service (23.5%), Elementary clerical, sales and service (20.6%) and Professionals (19.3%). Part-time workers in Balance of Victoria were characterised by fewer Professionals (13.3%) and tended to concentrate predominantly in the following occupations: Elementary clerical, sales and service (21.1%) and Intermediate clerical, sales and service (18.7%).

EMPLOYED PERSONS, By Occupation, Melbourne MSR and Balance of Victoria: November quarter—2007



Employed Persons(a), By Occupation and Major Statistical Region - November Quarter 2007

	Full-Time			Part-Time		
	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
MELBOURNE						
Managers and administrators	98.7	35.7	134.4	6.6	6.9	13.5
Professionals	188.9	144.8	333.7	28.6	77.5	106.1
Associate professionals	120.9	78.8	199.7	13.3	29.8	43.1
Tradespersons and related workers	185.1	12.3	197.4	17.4	8.1	25.5
Advanced clerical and service workers	7.3	37.0	44.3	0.9	32.6	33.5
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	78.0	118.0	196.0	24.8	104.9	129.7
Intermediate production and transport workers	113.2	12.2	125.4	19.1	9.3	28.4
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	32.4	25.6	58.0	29.3	84.3	113.6
Labourers and related workers	59.1	19.3	78.5	28.4	29.1	57.5
BALANCE OF VICTORIA						
Managers and administrators	47.2	12.1	59.3	6.9	4.1	11.0
Professionals	38.6	34.4	73.1	4.0	25.4	29.5
Associate professionals	39.9	26.1	65.9	4.7	14.2	19.0
Tradespersons and related workers	83.6	9.2	92.8	7.0	6.2	13.2
Advanced clerical and service workers	1.1	6.8	7.9	0.3	16.6	16.9
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	18.3	35.4	53.8	3.4	38.3	41.6
Intermediate production and transport workers	50.6	4.5	55.1	8.5	3.0	11.5
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	9.6	16.4	26.0	10.5	36.4	46.9
Labourers and related workers	34.0	7.0	41.0	15.7	17.1	32.7
VICTORIA						
Managers and administrators	145.9	47.8	193.7	13.5	11.0	24.5
Professionals	227.6	179.2	406.8	32.6	102.9	135.5
Associate professionals	160.8	104.9	265.7	18.0	44.0	62.0
Tradespersons and related workers	268.7	21.5	290.2	24.5	14.3	38.8
Advanced clerical and service workers	8.4	43.8	52.2	1.2	49.2	50.4
Intermediate clerical, sales and service workers	96.3	153.4	249.7	28.2	143.2	171.4
Intermediate production and transport workers	163.8	16.7	180.4	27.6	12.3	39.8
Elementary clerical, sales and service workers	42.0	42.0	84.0	39.8	120.7	160.5
Labourers and related workers	93.2	26.4	119.5	44.0	46.2	90.3

Part-time Workers

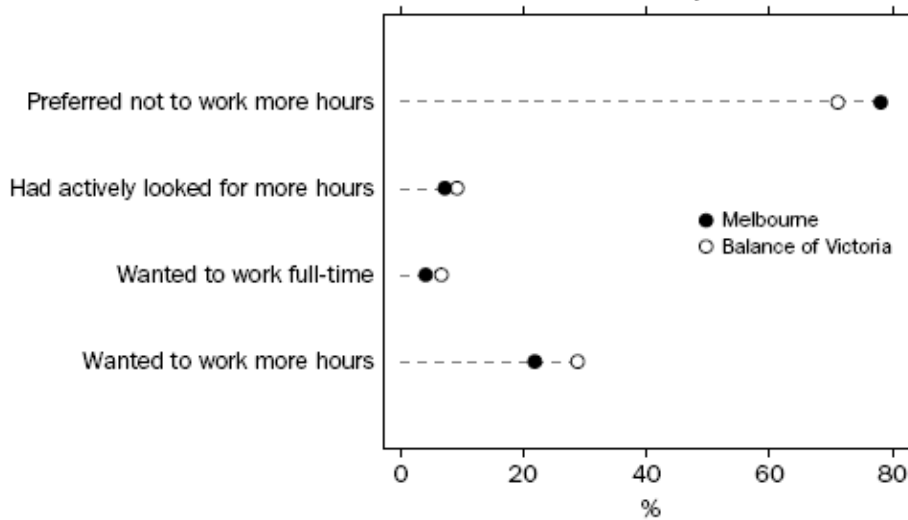
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PART-TIME WORKERS

In November quarter 2007, there were 550,900 part-time workers in the Melbourne MSR. From November quarter 2006 to November quarter 2007 total part-time workers increased by 14,300 persons (2.7%) in the Melbourne MSR. Females accounted for the majority of part-time workers (69.4%) in the Melbourne MSR. Most part-time workers (76.3%) preferred not to work more hours, and this was more common amongst females than males.

In the Balance of Victoria, the total number of part-time workers in November quarter 2007 was 222,400, an increase of 21,000 persons (10.4%) since November quarter 2006. The majority of these part-time workers (72.2%) preferred not to work more hours. Again this response was more prevalent amongst females than males.

PART-TIME WORKERS' INTENTION: November quarter—2007



[View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 8, Part Time Workers, By Sex, Melbourne \(file size 11kB\).](#)

[View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 9, Part Time Workers, By Sex, Balance of Victoria \(file size 11kB\).](#)

Duration of Unemployment

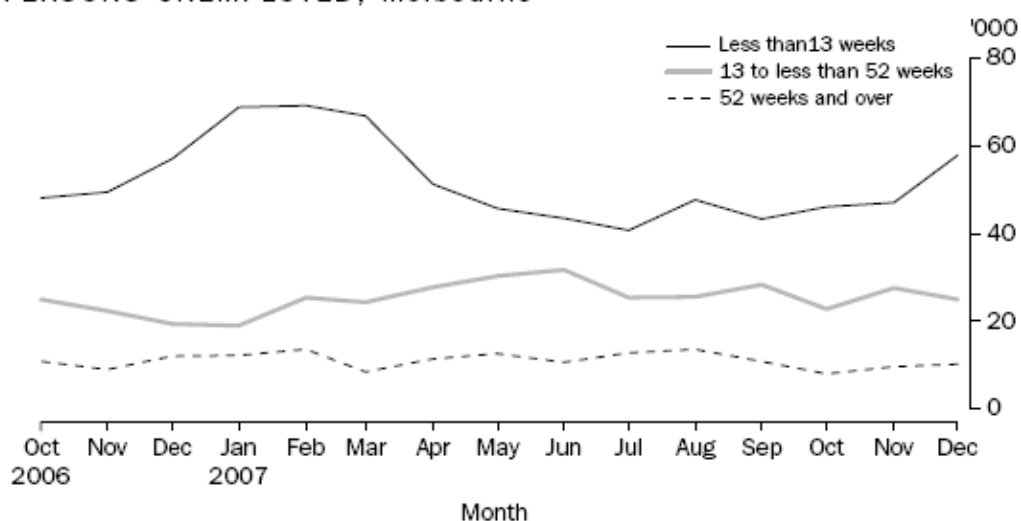
DURATION OF UNEMPLOYMENT

Between December 2006 and December 2007, the number of persons unemployed in the short term (for less than 13 weeks) increased by 1.4% in the Melbourne MSR and decreased by 8.3% in the Balance of Victoria MSR.

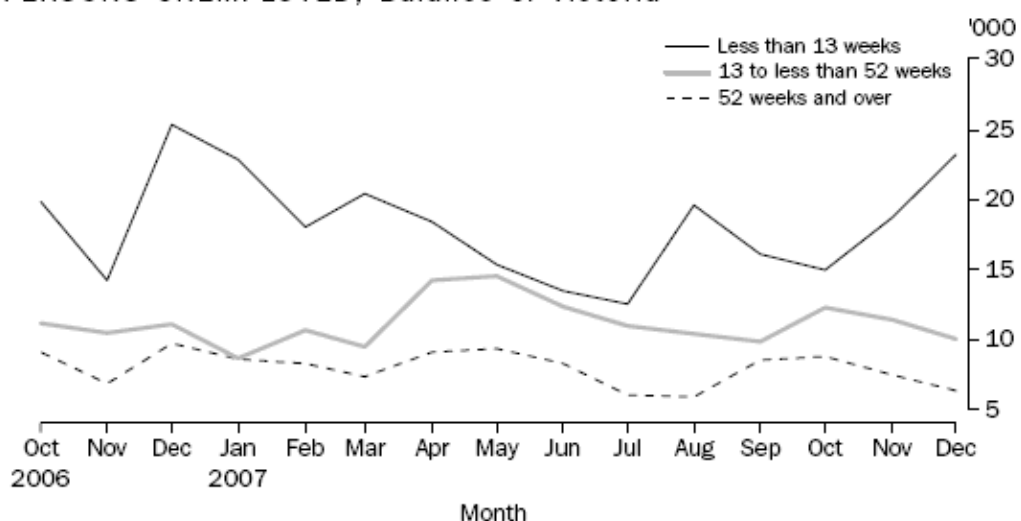
Over the same period, the number of medium term unemployed (13 to less than 52 weeks) increased by 27.7% in the Melbourne MSR but decreased by 9.8% in the Balance of Victoria MSR.

The number of long term unemployed (those unemployed for 52 weeks or more) fell by 14.0% in the Melbourne MSR and by 34.7% in the Balance of Victoria MSR.

PERSONS UNEMPLOYED, Melbourne



PERSONS UNEMPLOYED, Balance of Victoria



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 11, Unemployment Rate Estimates, By Local Government Area, Smoothed Series (file size 31kB).

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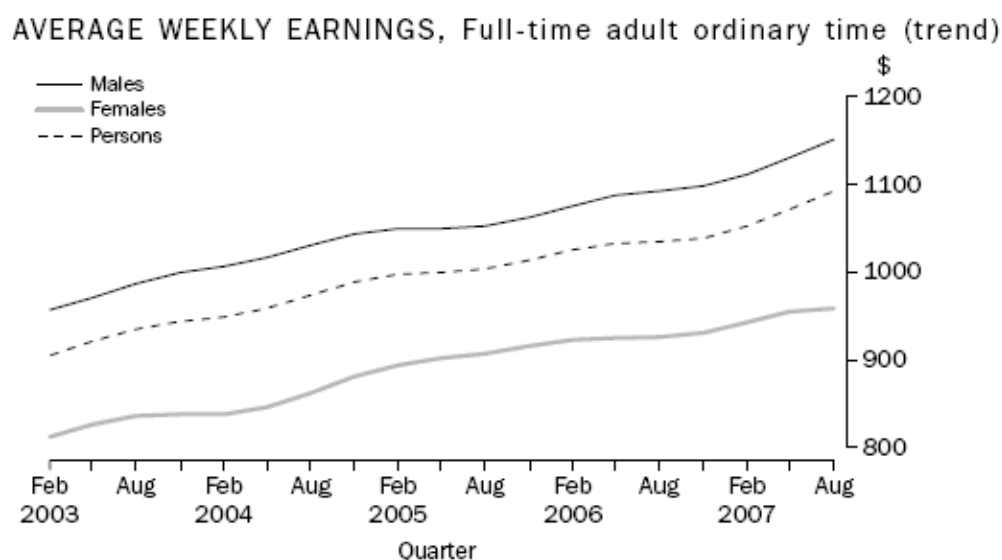
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Average Weekly Earnings

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AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS

In August quarter 2007, the trend estimate of full-time adult average weekly ordinary time earnings was \$1,092.7, an increase of 5.5% from August quarter 2006. Over the same period, trend adult male full-time ordinary time earnings increased by 5.4%, compared to 3.5% for adult female earnings.



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 12, Average Weekly Earnings of Employees, By Sex, Victoria, All Series (file size 13kB).

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State Final Demand

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State Final Demand

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STATE FINAL DEMAND

State final demand measures the total value of goods and services that are sold in a state to buyers who wish to either consume them or retain them in the form of capital assets. It excludes sales made to buyers who use them as inputs to a production activity, export sales and sales that lead to accumulation of inventories.

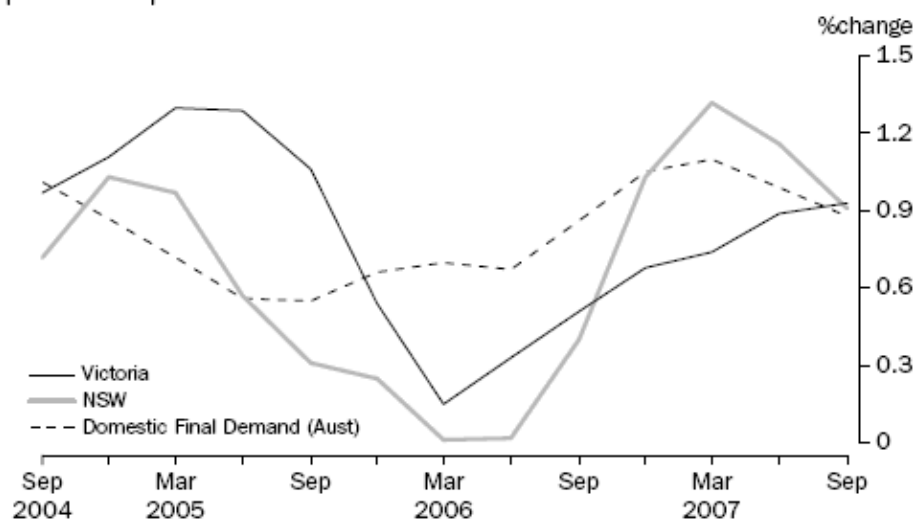
Measures of state final demand make no distinction between demand that is met by goods and services produced within the state in question, by supplies sourced from another state, or from overseas. State final demand is therefore not a measure of the value of production activity occurring within a state.

Note: As of 20 November 2006, the Telstra Corporation was effectively privatised. For the purpose of ABS statistics this change from public to private sector is effective from March quarter 2007. The classification of Telstra has changed from public sector to non-financial corporation from the March quarter 2007. There is a trend break from March quarter 2007 in a number of series related to the privatisation of Telstra. As a result no trend estimates are published for these series. For more information please see **Information Paper: Treatment of Telstra in ABS statistics** (cat. no. 8102.0) released 26 February 2007.

For the September quarter 2007, the trend estimate for Victorian final demand, in volume terms, was \$62,555m, an increase of 0.9% on the June quarter 2007. This was the same as the trend growth level for New South Wales and Australian trend estimate (domestic final demand) over the same period.

Household final consumption expenditure is the single largest component of state final demand. In September quarter 2007, this component accounted for 58.3% of the trend volume estimate of state final demand and recorded an increase of 0.9% on the June quarter 2007. The other main contributors were private gross fixed capital formation (22.6% of trend state final demand) and government final consumption expenditure (16.7%).

STATE FINAL DEMAND, Chain volume measures—Change from previous quarter: Trend



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 13, State Final Demand, Seasonally Adjusted and Trend (file size 17kB).

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 14, State Final Demand, Original (file size 13kB).

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Consumer Price Index

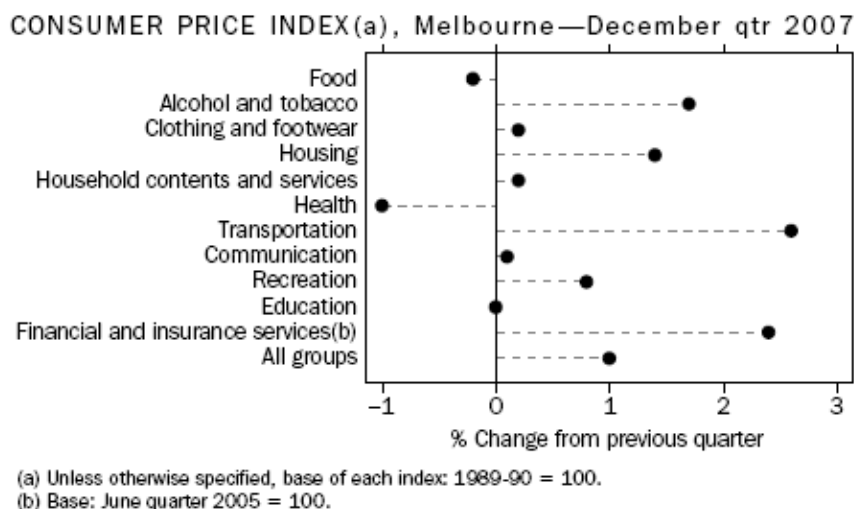
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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Between September quarter 2007 and December quarter 2007, the all-groups CPI for

Melbourne rose by 1.0%. The groups which recorded the largest increases were Transportation (2.6%), Financial and insurance services (2.4%), Alcohol and tobacco (1.7%) and Housing (1.4%). The groups which recorded decreases were Health (-1.0%) and Food (-0.2%).

Between December quarter 2006 and December quarter 2007, the all-groups CPI for Melbourne rose by 3.3%. The CPI all-groups weighted average for the eight capital cities rose by 3.0% over the same period. The biggest yearly increases for Melbourne occurred in Financial institution and insurance services (6.3%), Transportation (5.8%) and Alcohol and tobacco (4.3%). The only group which recorded a decrease for the year was Household contents and services (-1.1%).



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 15, Consumer Price Index, By Group, Melbourne (file size 10kB).

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House Price Indexes

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HOUSE PRICE INDEXES

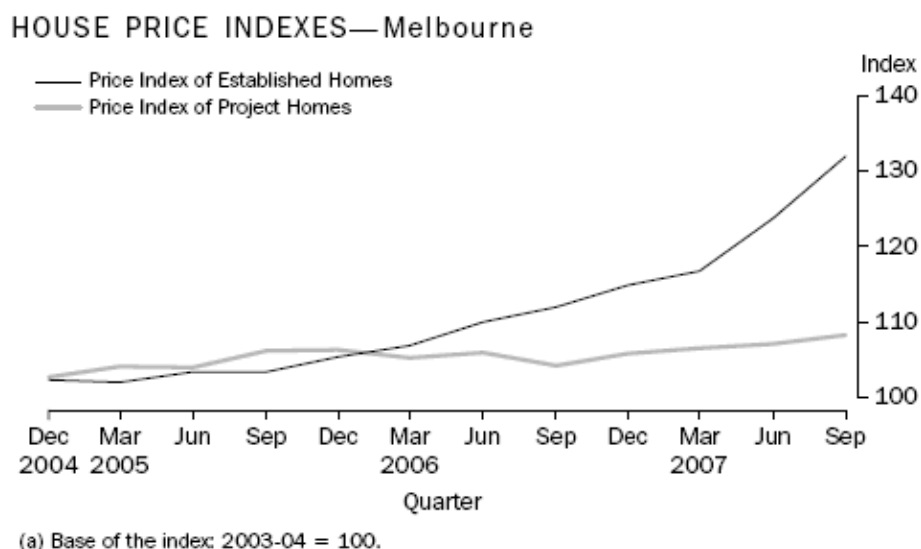
The price index for established houses covers transactions in detached residential dwellings on their own block of land regardless of age (i.e. including new houses sold as a house/land package as well as second-hand houses). Price changes therefore relate to changes in the total price of dwelling and land.

Project homes are dwellings available for construction on an existing block of land. Price changes relate only to the cost of constructing the dwelling (excluding land).

September quarter 2005 saw the introduction of a new methodology for compiling the established house price index. A detailed discussion of the new methodology is provided in **Information Paper: Renovating the Established House Price Index** (cat. no. 6417.0) released on 30 November 2005. The new established house price index commenced from March quarter 2002 and has a reference base of 2003-04 = 100.0. A new weighting pattern for the project home price index was introduced in September quarter 2005 (see Explanatory Notes to cat. no. 6416.0).

The price of project homes in Melbourne rose by 1.0% during the September quarter 2007. Preliminary estimates show the price of established homes has risen by 6.7% in Melbourne over the same period. This was the highest quarterly price increase since June quarter 2002. These followed a rise of 0.6% in project homes and a rise of 5.9% in established homes in the previous quarter. The weighted average of the eight capital cities showed a rise of 3.5% in established house prices and 1.1% in project house prices in September quarter 2007.

From the September quarter 2006 to September quarter 2007, established home prices in Melbourne rose by 17.8% while project home prices rose by 3.8%.



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 16, House Price Indexes, Melbourne And Weighted Average Of Eight Capital Cities (file size 8kB).

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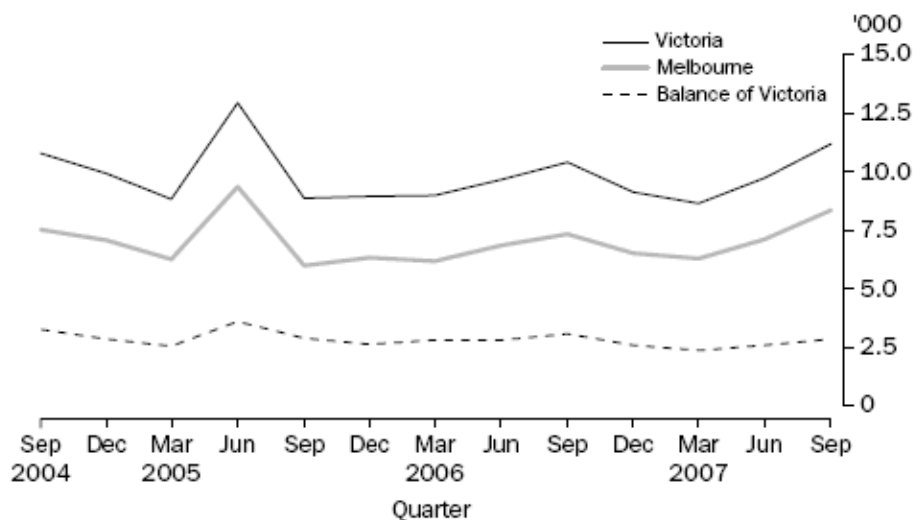
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Building Approvals

BUILDING APPROVALS

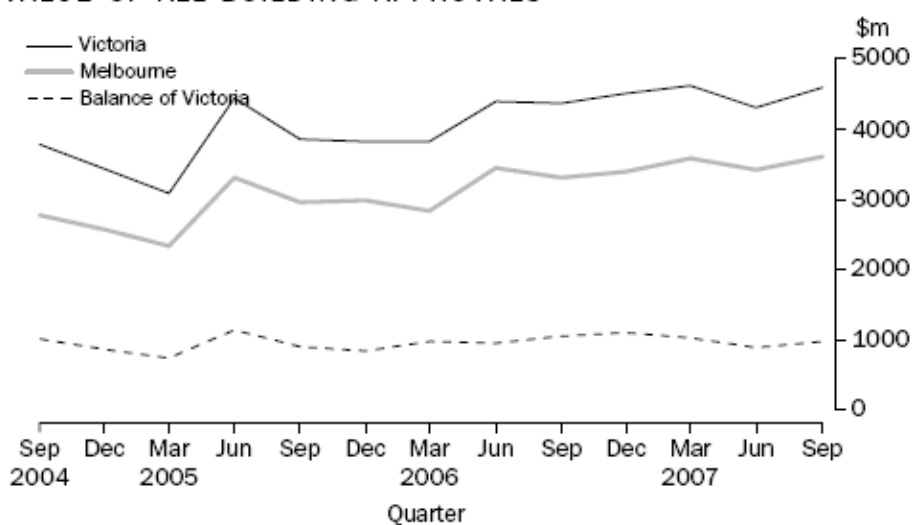
In September quarter 2007, the total number of new dwelling units approved in Victoria was 11,212. This was 1,458 more than in the June quarter 2007, or an increase of 14.9%. Over the same period, the number of new dwelling units approved in Melbourne MSR increased by 17.1%, while in the Balance of Victoria MSR the increase was 9.0%. The three LGAs with the highest number of new dwelling units approved in the September 2007 quarter were Melbourne (856), Wyndham (737) and Casey (565). From September quarter 2006 to September quarter 2007, the biggest increases in new dwelling unit approvals were in Melbourne (741), Darebin (177) and Moreland (166) and the largest decreases were in Stonnington (-127), Whittlesea (-89) and Greater Bendigo (-85).

DWELLING UNIT APPROVALS



The value of new building approvals for Victoria was \$294.9 million higher in September quarter 2007 than in the previous quarter.

VALUE OF ALL BUILDING APPROVALS



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 17, Building Approvals, By Local Government Area (file size 28kB).

Engineering Construction Activity

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ENGINEERING CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY

The total value of engineering work done during September quarter 2007 was \$1695.1m, a decrease of 12.8% from June quarter 2007. The overall decrease in September quarter 2007 was mainly due to decreases in the value of work done for Roads, highways and subdivisions (-\$192m), Telecommunications (-\$90.3m), Electricity generation, transmission etc. and pipelines (-\$26m) and Recreation and other (-\$23.9m).

In contrast, the value of work done for Water storage and supply, sewerage and drainage increased by (\$103.4m).

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 18, Engineering Construction Activity, By Type, Victoria, Original (file size 18kB).

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Livestock Slaughtering and Meat Production

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LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERING AND MEAT PRODUCTION

Between October 2006 and October 2007, the trend estimate for total meat production for Victoria fell by 0.7% from 60,258 tonnes to 59,850 tonnes. The production of lamb increased by 8.3%, while pig meat, mutton, beef and veal decreased by 10.4%, 3.8%, 2.8% and 1.7% respectively over the period.



Trend estimates for lamb slaughtering increased by 3.0% while sheep, pigs, calves and cattle slaughtering decreased by 15.6%, 10.8%, 10.0% and 6.0% respectively between October 2006 and October 2007.

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 19, Livestock Slaughtering and Meat Production, Victoria, All Series (file size 16kB).

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 20, Other Agricultural Production (file size 11kB).

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Balance of Trade

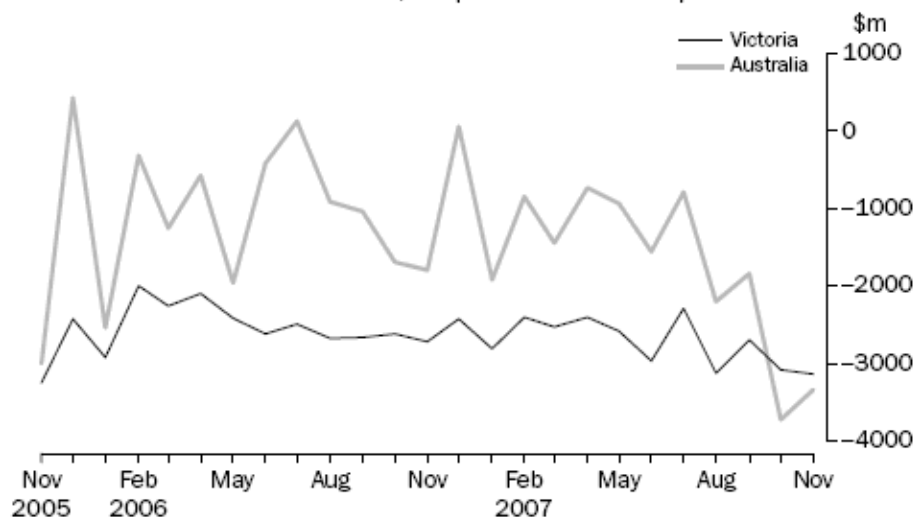
[Contents >> Trade >> Balance of Trade](#)

BALANCE OF TRADE

In November 2007, the value of Victoria's exports was \$1,707m. This was 7.7% lower than in November 2006. Over the same period, the value of imports rose by 6.2% and Victoria's overall net trade position declined by \$424m or 15.6%. On average, Victoria recorded a monthly trade deficit of \$2,704.3m in merchandise trade for the year ended in November 2007.

At the national level, exports (including re-exports) were 1.4% higher in November 2007 than in November 2006, whilst imports rose by 11.0%.

NET TRADE PERFORMANCE, Exports minus Imports



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: [1367.2 Table 21, Balance of International Merchandise Trade](#) (file size 11kB).

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Trade by Commodity

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TRADE BY COMMODITY

For the year ended November 2007, Victoria's merchandise exports fell by \$79m (0.4%) in comparison to the year ended November 2006. The main items contributing to this fall were decreases in exports of Food and live animals (-\$389m), Beverages and tobacco (-\$223m) and Crude materials, inedible, except fuels (-\$114m). Rises in exports were recorded mainly for Commodities and transactions merchandise trade n.e.c. (\$289m), Chemical and related products, n.e.c (\$271m) and Machinery and transport equipment (\$184m).

Over the same period, the total value of Victoria's merchandise imports increased by \$2,467m (5.0%), with increases recorded in most of the import commodity categories. The largest increases were recorded in Machinery and transport equipment (\$859m), Food and live animals (\$412m) and Commodities and transactions merchandise trade n.e.c. (\$409m).

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 22, International Merchandise Trade, By Commodity (file size 12kB).

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Major Trading Partners

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MAJOR TRADING PARTNERS

For the year ended November 2007, Victoria's trade deficit was -\$32,451m. Victoria recorded its highest trade deficit with China (-\$6,830m) followed by USA (-\$5,042m) and Japan (-\$3,284m). For the same period, Victoria recorded its highest trading surplus with Saudi Arabia (\$959m) followed by Papua New Guinea (\$145m) and Hong Kong (\$84m).

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 23, International Merchandise Trade, By Major Trading Partners (file size 12kB).

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Air quality

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AIR QUALITY

The Air Quality Index compiled by the Victorian Environment Protection Authority measures the concentration of various pollutants relative to the levels at which they may cause harm. The index is available for four areas in the Port Phillip Region (East, West, City and Geelong) and the Latrobe Valley.

The Visibility Pollutant Index is an indicator of visibility reduction. Visibility incidents are generally higher during cooler months of Autumn and Winter (from May to September), whereas ozone values are generally higher during warmer months of Spring and Summer (from November to February).

View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 24, Air Quality (file size 28kB).

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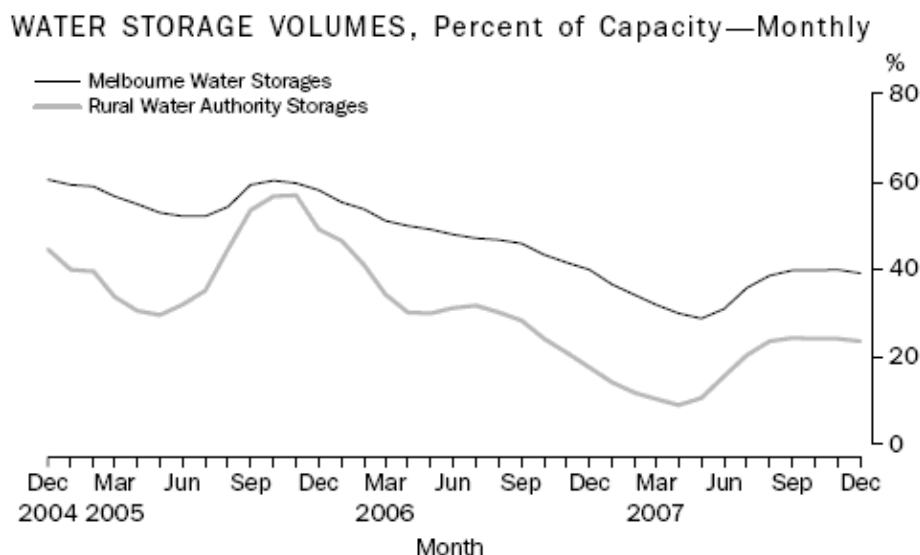
Water Resources

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WATER RESOURCES

At the end of December 2007, Victoria's water storages were at 23.3% of capacity. This was 0.7% lower than the level in November 2007, and 4.2% higher than in December 2006.

Melbourne's water storage levels at the end of December 2007 were at 39.2% of capacity. This was 0.8% lower than both in November 2007 and in December 2006. Rural water storages held 23.7% of their capacity at the end of December 2007, 0.5% lower than in November 2007, and 6.1% higher than the level in December 2006.



View underlying table as an Excel spreadsheet: 1367.2 Table 25, Water Storages, By River Basin, Victoria (file size 11kB).

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Child Care Usage In Victoria (Feature Article)

Feature Article - Child Care Usage in Victoria

Introduction

This article presents information about the use of child care in Victoria. Data in this article was obtained from the 2005 Child Care Survey for children aged 0-12 years.

The Child Care Survey was conducted throughout Australia in June 2005 as a supplement to the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) monthly Labour Force Survey. The 2005 Child Care Survey is a continuation of a series of surveys on the topic of child care conducted since 1969. The previous survey was in June 2002.

Child care refers to arrangements (other than care by resident parents) made for the care of children aged 0-12 years. The Child Care Survey collected information about formal and informal child care. Formal child care refers to regulated care that takes place away from the child's home, for example long day care, before and/or after school care and family day care. Informal care refers to non-regulated care that takes place in the child's home or elsewhere. It includes care by family members, friends, neighbours, baby sitters and nannies. Parents often use a combination of formal and informal child care for their children.

In 2005, preschool was excluded from the definition of formal care due to the widely-accepted view that the main focus of preschool is education and preparing children for school, rather than child care.

Use of child care
Cost of care

USE OF CHILD CARE

Formal care and informal care

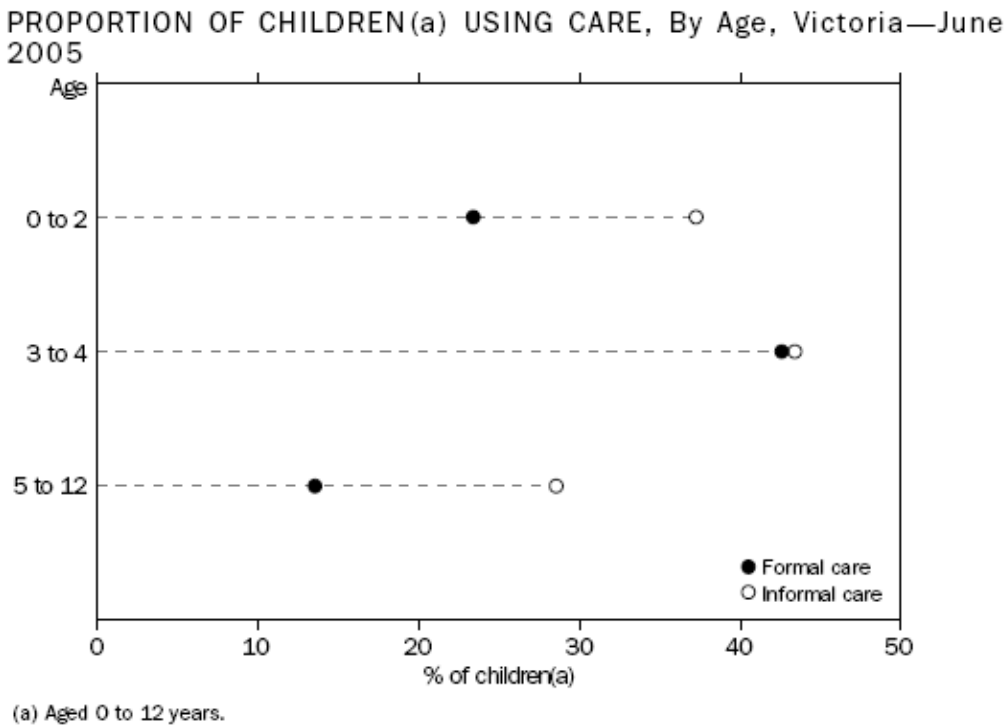
In June 2005, 374,500 children aged 0-12 years received some type of child care in Victoria during the reference week. This represented 46% of children in this age group. Formal care, either alone or in combination with informal care, was used by 20% (165,000) of children in the reference week. Informal care, either alone or in combination with formal care, was used by 33% (268,800) of children aged 0-12 years.

The most commonly used types of formal care were long day care and before and/or after school care, attended by 8% and 7% of all children aged 0-12 years respectively. These were followed by family day care (3%) and occasional care (2%) while other forms of formal child care were used by less than 1% of children.

In terms of informal care, grandparents were the main informal carers, providing care for 20% of all children.

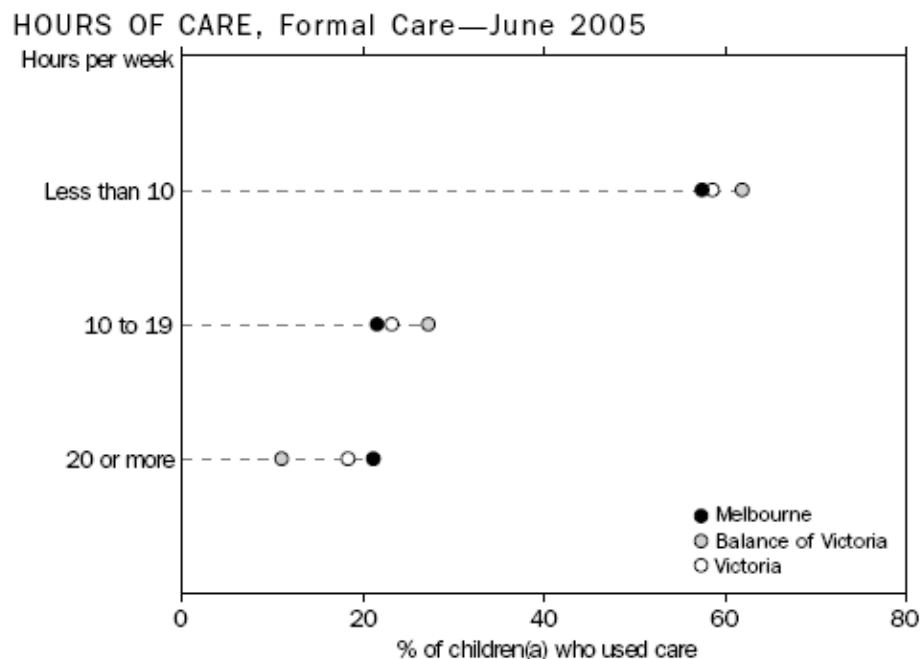
Use of care by children of different ages

Child care usage varied with age for both formal care and informal care. In Victoria, the use of formal care for young children (0 to 2 years) was 23%. This increased to 43% for children aged 3 to 4 years, before dropping to 14% for children aged 5 to 12 years. In comparison, the use of informal care was 37% for young children (0 to 2 years) and rose to a peak of 43% for children aged 3 to 4 years, before falling to a low of 29% for children aged 5 to 12 years.



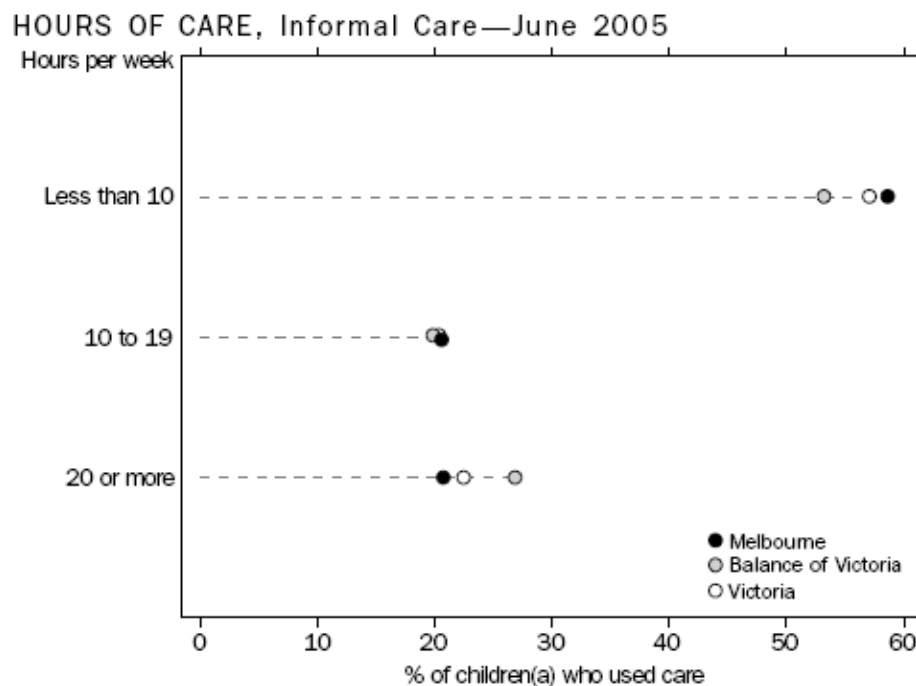
Hours of Care

In terms of formal care, most children used relatively few hours of child care. This was evident in both Melbourne and the Balance of Victoria. Of those children attending formal care in Melbourne, 57% spent less than 10 hours per week in formal care. In the Balance of Victoria, the proportion was slightly higher, with 62% using formal care for less than 10 hours per week during the reference period. There was a higher proportion of children spending between 10 and 19 hours per week in formal care in the Balance of Victoria (27%) compared to Melbourne (22%). However, the proportion of children who attended formal care for 20 hours or more per week was much lower in the Balance of Victoria (11%) than in Melbourne (21%). The median number of hours for all children aged 0-12 years who used child care in Victoria was 9 hours in the reference week.



(a) All children aged 0-12 years.

Similarly, with informal care most children used relatively few hours of child care. In Melbourne, 59% of children who used informal care accessed less than 10 hours per week, while in the Balance of Victoria the figure was 53%. By contrast, for those children who attended informal child care for 20 hours or more per week in the reference period, the Balance of Victoria had a higher proportion of children using informal care (27%) than Melbourne (21%).



(a) All children aged 0-12 years.

Couple and one parent families

A higher proportion of children in one parent families (53%) used child care than children in couple families (44%). Both family types were more likely to use informal care than formal care. Among children from one parent families, 39% used informal care and 24% used formal care. Of children from couple families the proportions were 31% (informal) and 19% (formal).

Care provided by grandparents was important for children in both couple and one parent families (21% and 15% of children respectively). However, care provided by other relatives including the child's other parent living elsewhere, siblings and other more distant relatives played a greater role for children in one parent families (26%) than for those in couple families (11%).

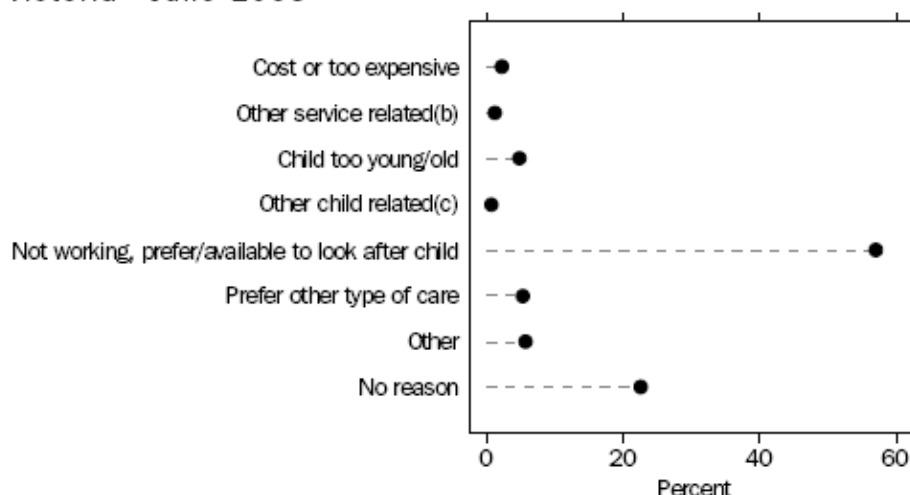
Whether required additional formal care

The survey sought information from parents about whether their formal child care requirements were met. Those families not using formal care were asked whether there was any time in the last four weeks when they wanted to use any formal care services but didn't. Those families already using formal child care were asked whether there was any time in the previous four weeks when they wanted to use any more formal care services but didn't.

According to parents' responses, of the total 821,600 children aged between 0 to 12 years in Victoria, there was a requirement for additional formal care for approximately 43,400 children (5%). This was similar to the national proportion (6%). The vast majority of children in Victoria (778,100 children or 95%) required no additional formal care.

In Victoria, of the 95% of children that did not require additional formal care, the main reason provided by parents for not requiring any additional care was that a parent was not working, or they preferred/were available to look after the child. This applied for 57% of all children that did not require additional formal care. This proportion was higher in the Balance of Victoria (62%) compared to Melbourne (55%).

MAIN REASON WHY ADDITIONAL FORMAL CARE NOT REQUIRED(a), Victoria—June 2005



(a) Includes total of all children aged 0 to 12 years. Excludes children attending preschool.

(b) 'Other service related' reasons include 'transport or distance', 'time or days available not suitable', 'parents unhappy with service or carers' and 'not flexible enough/not available at short notice'.

(c) 'Other child related' reasons include 'child's preference' and 'child has special needs (illness or disability)'. This estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution.

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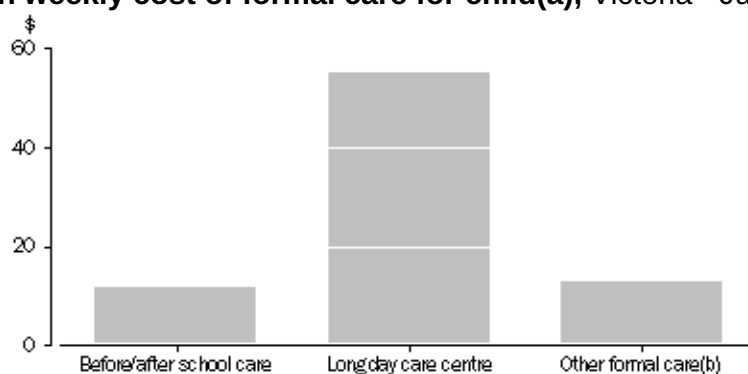
COST OF CARE

Cost of care information measured by the 2005 Child Care Survey is the cost of care to the parents after the Child Care Benefit has been taken into account. This cost does not take into account the new Child Care Tax Rebate introduced in December 2005. (For more detailed information about the Child Care Tax Rebate and the Child Care Benefit, refer to the Explanatory Notes in the ABS publication **Child Care Australia**, June 2005 (cat. no. 4402.0). As well as any Child Care Benefit entitlements, the cost of care is influenced by factors such as the hours spent in care and the different fees for different types of care.

For 69% (259,600) of children who used child care during the reference period, the cost of that week's care was less than \$20 (this includes a large proportion of children for whom there was no cost), while for 7% of children it was \$100 or more. There was a cost involved for almost all children who used formal care (96%). In contrast, the majority of informal care was provided free of charge, with a payment being made for just 10% of children using informal care.

The median weekly cost per child of all formal care was \$25. The cost of care was highest for long day care, indicated by a median weekly cost of \$55.

Median weekly cost of formal care for child(a), Victoria - June 2005

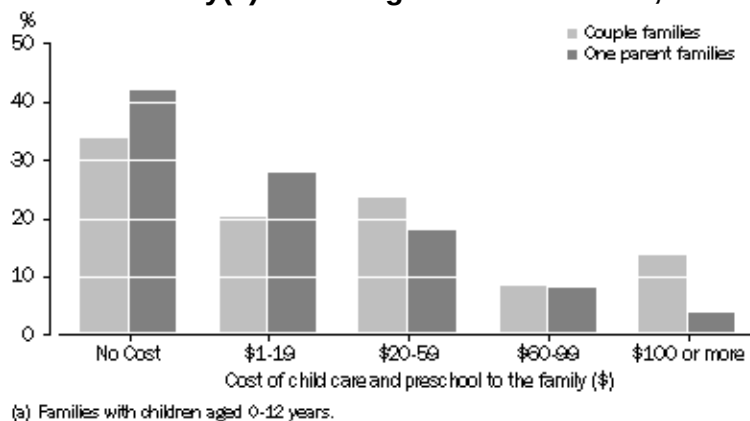


(a) Includes cost of formal care for all children aged 0-12 years.

(b) Includes 'family day care', 'occasional care' and 'other formal care'.

Estimates of child care costs per family were also available, but only for informal care and an aggregate of formal care and preschool. The total median weekly cost for couple families was \$15 in the reference week, compared to \$4 for one parent families. These low median values are largely influenced by the fact that many families did not have to make any payments for their use of informal care.

Cost of Care To The Family(a) Including Preschool Costs, Victoria - June 2005



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WORK AND CHILD CARE

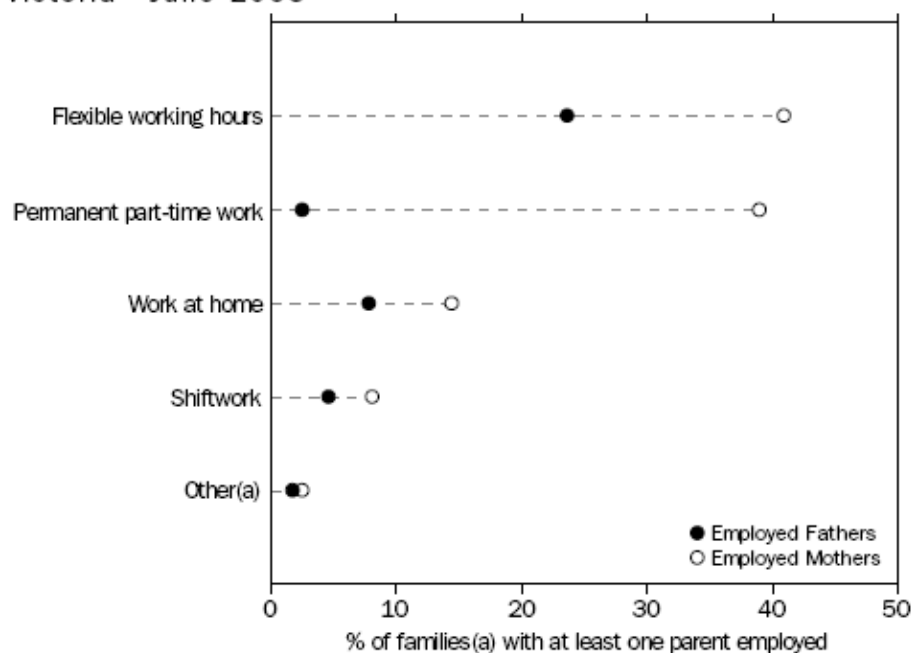
Use of work arrangements to help care for children

People used a range of work arrangements to help them care for their children. These included flexible working hours, permanent part-time work, shift work, work from home and job sharing arrangements.

Of all families in Victoria with at least one parent employed, 59% indicated that at least one parent normally used one of these work arrangements to help them care for their children. This compares to 61% nationally.

The most frequently used arrangements were flexible working hours (38%), permanent part-time work (27%) and working at home (14%). Overall, employed mothers in both couple and one parent families were considerably more likely to make use of these types of work arrangements (73%) than employed fathers (31%). In couple families, 31% of employed fathers used these work arrangements compared to 58% of employed fathers in one parent families.

USE OF WORK ARRANGEMENTS TO HELP CARE FOR CHILDREN(a), Victoria—June 2005



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Preschool Attendance

Of the 74,800 children who attended preschool in the reference week in 2005, 45% attended for fewer than three days and 55% attended for three days or more. Of these children, the main reasons for choosing a particular preschool were convenience (39%) and quality/reputation of that preschool (32%).

For further detailed information, please refer to **Child Care Australia, June 2005**, (cat. no. 4402.0).

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Explanatory Notes

Glossary

GLOSSARY

Chain volume measures

Annually-reweighted chain Laspeyres indexes referenced to the current price values in a chosen reference year (i.e. the year when the quarterly chain volume measures sum to the current price annual values). Chain Laspeyres volume measures are compiled by linking together (compounding) movements in volumes, calculated using the average prices of the previous financial year, and applying the compounded movements to the current price estimates of the reference year. Quarterly chain volume estimates are benchmarked to annual chain volume estimates, so that the quarterly estimates for a financial year sum to the corresponding annual

estimate.

Generally, chain volume measures are not additive. In other words, component chain volume measures do not sum to a total in the way original current price components do. In order to minimise the impact of this property, the ABS uses the latest base year as the reference year. By adopting this approach, additivity exists for the quarters following the reference year and non-additivity is relatively small for the quarters in the reference year and the quarters immediately preceding it. The latest base year and the reference year will be advanced one year with the release of the June quarter data each year. A change in reference year changes levels but not growth rates, although some revision to recent growth rates can be expected because of the introduction of a more recent base year (and revisions to the current price estimates underlying the chain volume measures).

Duration of unemployment

The elapsed period to the end of the reference week since a person began looking for work, or since a person last worked for two weeks or more, whichever is the shorter. Brief periods of work (of less than two weeks) since the person began looking for work are disregarded.

Employed

Persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:

- worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind, in a job or business or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers);
- worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers);
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:
 - away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week;
 - away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week;
 - away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement;
 - on strike or locked out;
 - on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job;
- were employers or own account workers who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

Indirect standardised death rate

Standardised death rates enable the comparison of death rates between populations with different age structures by relating them to a standard population. The ABS standard populations relate to the years ending in 1 (e.g. 2001). The current standard population is all persons in the 2001 Australian population. Standardised death rates are expressed per 1,000 or 100,000 persons. There are two methods of calculating standardised death rates:

- The direct method - this is used when the populations under study are large and the age-specific death rates are reliable. It is the overall death rate that would have prevailed in the standard population if it had experienced at each age the death rates of the population under study.
- The indirect method - this is used when the populations under study are small and the age-

specific death rates are unreliable or not known. It is an adjustment to the crude death rate of the standard population to account for the variation between the actual number of deaths in the population under study and the number of deaths which would have occurred if the population under study had experienced the age-specific death rates of the standard population.

Part-time workers

Employed persons who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and either did so during the reference week, or were not at work in the reference week.

Particles as PM₁₀

Particles with an aerodynamic diameter of 10 micrometres or less.

Seasonal adjustment

A means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variations from economic time series so that the effects of other influences are obvious. Seasonal variations are the systematic (though not necessarily regular) intra-year movements of economic time series. These are often the result of non-economic phenomena, such as climatic changes and regular religious festivals (e.g. Christmas and Easter).

State final demand

Conceptually identical to domestic final demand at the national level (the sum of private and government final consumption expenditure and private and public gross fixed capital formation).

National estimates are based on the concepts and conventions embodied in the System of National Accounts, 1993, but for regional (including state) estimates there is no separate international standard. Although national concepts are generally applicable to state accounts, there remain several conceptual and measurement issues that either do not apply or are insignificant nationally. Most of the problems arise in the measurement of gross state product for the transport and storage, communication services, and finance and insurance industries, where production often takes place across state borders. In these cases, a number of conceptual views can be applied to the allocation of value added by state. For more information, see chapter 28 of *Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods* (cat. no. 5216.0).

Trend estimates

Smoothing seasonally adjusted series produces a measure of trend by removing the impact of the irregular component of the series. The trend estimates are derived by applying a 13-term Henderson weighted moving average to the respective seasonally adjusted series. Readers are reminded that trend estimates are subject to revision as subsequent months' data become available.

Unemployed

Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and:

- had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and:
 - were available for work in the reference week;
 - were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week, and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

Abbreviations

ABBREVIATIONS

The following symbols and abbreviations are used in this publication:

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
ATO	Australian Taxation Office
Aust.	Australia
B	Borough
BoV	Balance of Victoria
C	City
CPI	consumer price index
EPA	Environment Protection Authority
ERP	estimated resident population
FT	full-time
ha	hectare
kL	kilolitre
LGA	local government area
ML	megalitre
MSD	Melbourne Statistical Division
MSR	major statistical region
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
NEPM	National Environment Protection Measure
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
qtr	quarter
Qld	Queensland
RC	Rural City
S	Shire
SA	South Australia
SD	statistical division
SEPP	State Environment Protection Policy
SITC	Standard International Trade Classification
SLA	statistical local area
SSD	statistical subdivision
Tas.	Tasmania
Vic.	Victoria
WA	Western Australia

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